



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 3, 1997

### **H.R. 967**

**A bill to prohibit the use of United States funds to provide for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, programs, and activities and to provide that certain Chinese officials shall be ineligible to receive visas and excluded from admission to the United States**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on International Relations  
on September 30, 1997*

H.R. 967 would prohibit the Department of State, the United States Information Agency, and the U.S. Agency for International Development from funding travel expenses for certain nationals of the People's Republic of China to participate in international conferences, exchange programs, and activities. The prohibition would apply to the head or political secretary of government-created or approved religious organizations and military or civilian government officials engaged in policies or practices that repress religious activities or the free expression of religious beliefs. In addition, the bill would prohibit the State Department from issuing visas to such military and government officials, thereby excluding them from the United States.

The bill would add new screening and reporting requirements that could slightly increase the administrative overhead costs for any exchange program with the People's Republic of China. Nevertheless, CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 967 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Because it would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The estimate was prepared by Joseph C. Whitehill. The estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.